

Church News.

FROM ROANOKE, VA.

We are in the midst of a glorious revival at one of our preaching stations, ten miles south of Roanoke, Boone's chapel. Up to date nine persons have been baptized, and two have been added by relation, and the prospects are buoyant for many more. A very profound religious sentiment has been awakened, and the "Gospel-alone" doctrine is growing rapidly in favor with all classes. We expect to organize a branch of the Vine there, to include the Red Hill branch, sometime this summer. Eld. J. S. Bowman, ex-pastor of the Roanoke city congregation, is doing most of the work. His plan is the true one, that of visiting from house to house. A wide field is opening in southern Virginia, for our doctrine, an open effectual door.

I met with a mishap yesterday, that came near ending my pilgrimage. I was directing the removal of an old frame building, and quicker than thought, it collapsed and a large section of the roof, weighing at least a ton, was precipitated on me. Providentially, a counter obstruction shared the pressure, and I was saved by a hairs breadth. "The angel of the Lord encampeth about those who fear him." How near to death's door we *always* are. "Be ye always ready for in an unknown hour, the Son of man cometh."

Our District Convention is coming on apace. I hope it will bring many needed blessings to us all.

The Old Order Brethren are pushing preparations for their Annual Convention $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of our place, to begin the first of June. They look for a great gathering of the people who love "the land-marks which the fathers have set." They show great heroism in battling for the fleeting customs of past generations. Whatever of grace or virtue cometh from those ancient customs is theirs in an overflowing measure. They keep right on in the middle of the road, and are the true moral heroes.

Our Conservative brethren held a four day's ministerial and district meeting in Boletourt county lately. One of the speakers gave out the interesting information that the Progressive ship had foundered on an iceberg, that a frost, a killing frost, had nipped our budding aspirations for denominational life. This item of current history will be news to most of our people. Would it not be best for a *friend* to preside over the obsequies? The tribute of a tear, the compliment of a myrtle wreath, at least, would be paid to the early and unfortunate dead. To what

branch of the Progressive army does this apply? Hold up your hand and be counted. May the Lord bless us all.

April 30.

D. C. MOOMAW.

LATER.—May 3. An extraordinary Progressive tidal wave is sweeping over south Roanoke city, since the foregoing account was written. Brother Bowman has received into the church by relation, seven members, and to be baptized next Sunday seventeen, and the end is not yet. Great crowds attend each night service and the deepest spiritual feelings prevail. Our dear brethren of the "Gospel Messenger" were favored with an account recently of the return of the Roanoke city fold, of one of their sheep who strayed into the Progressive fold. It will now be in order for their correspondent to mention this new hegira from Conservatism to Progression. The meeting will continue indefinitely, that is, till all the sheep and lambs are safely folded.

D. C. M.

We have just closed one of the most successful revival meetings at Boone's chapel in this county, that was ever held in Virginia under the auspices of the Progressive Brethren. Its incidents and methods are worthy of permanent record. About one year ago at the solicitation of friends at our Red Hill station, four miles distant, I commenced an appointment on each second Sunday. We did not have any members nearer than about three miles. I made a speciality of doctrinal subjects, including "Feet-washing," "The Lord's Supper," "Non-conformity." The congregations were fair for that period of the day. The Conservatives held a meeting at the same place on the same day. They have been preaching there for probably twenty years and had practical control of the field. The Methodists have a monthly appointment at the same place.

On April 1, brother J. S. Bowman's pastorate of the Roanoke city church ceased and he consented to take direction of the Boone's chapel revival. It began April 23. Brother Bowman's plan was to preach each evening and visit from house to house during the day. I assisted in the preaching several times during the series until the accident of which I wrote lately. During most of the time the continuous rains and consequent bad roads kept the congregations light. The net visible result to date is twenty-seven baptisms, four to be baptized at our next appointment, and seventeen received by relation. The uncrystaled results are a complete conquest of public sentiment which was without form and void, when the meetings began, and the firm estab-

lishment of the Bible alone doctrine in that section of the county. The file of the Conservative army helped us much during the meetings. We folded about five families, entire, and secured the heads of seven or more families, all of strong, local influence.

This section of the county borders on Franklin Co., the stronghold of Conservatism of a century's growth. The outcome of this extraordinary retrieval will be that we will enter Franklin Co., this summer and unfurl the "Gospel-alone" banner and gather into the Progressive fold a large element of unchurched believers in the doctrines of the Dunkard church. The cry from there is already heard saying, "*bring us the unadulterated doctrines of the Gospel.*"

The meetings closed yesterday evening and, to emphasize their influence on the people's hearts, five came forward and made the good confession. Had Brother Bowman's circumstances favored it, we probably would have continued the meetings longer. His family is in Rockingham Co., and his plans for the summer make it imperative for him to go there at once.

Our idea is to strengthen the new converts, give them their allotted work, solidify their faith, and return in the autumn and hold another series of meetings and gather the remainder of the harvest, with the Father's blessing on all we do. Let all the saints rejoice for the consolation of this great victory.

D. C. MOOMAW.

FROM WILLIAMSTOWN, O.

As my term of office has expired as corresponding secretary, March 30, 1895, I should have made a report of our church work, but have neglected it, I will give a report from Jan. 1, 1895: Number of accessions up to date, twenty-seven all of whom were received by baptism. Others are counting the cost, and we expect at our next regular meeting to receive others into the fold. We have organized a King's Children society at this place with a membership of thirty-eight to start with, and on Sunday evening, May 5, will hold our first meeting. The prospects are good for a grand society at this place. Our Sunday school is flourishing grandly. We have an enrollment of seventy-five, and the number is still increasing each Sunday. It is not only increasing in number but in spiritual development, and all take hold of the work.

W. B. TROWBRIDGE.

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